

"Building the Foundation"

















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## BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE DREAMS OF TOMORROW

Our focus in 2014 was on building the capacity of the agency through leadership development, facilities projects, and new programs.

**Leadership Development:** AYC has been investing in leadership development by attending the Annenberg Foundations Alchemy+ and Boot Camp leadership training as well as City Scholars Foundation Leadership Academy. We learned about the difference between management and leadership and the Executive Director's role in creating and communicating the vision. The Board of Directors updated AYC's bylaws, implemented best practices in board governance and created a six year strategic plan — Vision 2020 that will guide AYC into the future.

**Facilities:** AYC completed a major renovation of the May L. To Educational Center - special thanks to the Ahmanson Foundation for funding! We want to thank HOPE World Wide Los Angeles and Lifeway Church, who sent more than 50 volunteers to help paint

the interior of the building including a new mural in the multipurpose room.

We also completed 90% of the renovations at AYC's new Administrative Building, thanks to support from the Honorable Michael D. Antonovich.

**Programs:** The ACE after-school program successfully completed two years of outcome data demonstrating that our program redesign, which was implemented several years ago, has made a huge impact. AYC also expanded our services to include a new Employment Services Department. Both of these developments will allow AYC to serve more youth in the years to come.

By investing in leadership development, facilities and programs, AYC is building the foundation we need to sustain and grow programs that help youth succeed in school, at work and in life!



### Michelle Freridge, Executive Director

Michelle Freridge became the Executive Director of AYC in 2012 after serving as the Program Director and Director of Development. She has over 20 years of professional non-profit experience. Ms. Freridge completed a B.A. at Michigan State University, an M.P.A from Western Michigan University, and a J.D. at Loyola Law School.

## MISSION AND HISTORY

The Asian Youth Center (AYC) exists to empower low-income, immigrant, and at-risk youth and families, of all communities, to overcome barriers to success through culturally and linguistically competent education, employment, and social services.

We help youth succeed in school, at work, and in life!

#### **VALUES**

PASSION AYC's authentic passion for helping youth and families

succeed drives everything we do.

RESPECT AYC treats all youth, family members, community partners

and other stakeholders with respect and professionalism.

INTEGRITY AYC consistently chooses honesty, transparency, and doing

the right thing in all the ways we do business.

DIVERSITY AYC values people of diverse ethnicities, cultures, gender,

age, and socio-economic status because diversity enriches

and empowers the team and its members.

**EXCELLENCE** AYC demonstrates excellence in leadership, performance,

and customer service.

#### **CORE COMPETENCIES**

AYC's core competencies are in Educational Enrichment Services, Employment Services for Youth, Youth Development, Parent Education, and Community Outreach & Education. AYC is culturally and linguistically competent in Chinese, Vietnamese, Spanish and English.

#### **HISTORY**

The Asian Youth Center (AYC) was founded in 1989 to meet the social service and health needs of Asian immigrant youth and families in the San Gabriel Valley. Over the years the agency

grown from a small annual budget of \$160,000, serving less than 100 youth in a small geographic area, to the organization it is today, with an annual budget of more than \$4 million, serving more than 3,000 youth and their families over almost a third of Los Angeles County. Along the way, AYC expanded its scope and services to include youth and families of all ethnicities, while still retaining its core cultural and linguistic competence with Asian immigrants.

## WHO WE SERVE

In the 2013-2014 fiscal year, AYC served 3,045 unduplicated individuals and reached an additional 1,968 people with educational outreach.

Of the people served 37% utilized Educational Enrichment Services, 40% participated in Youth and Family Services, and 23% participated in Employment Services.

Forty-eight percent (48%) of people AYC served were female, 51% male, and 1% were unknown.

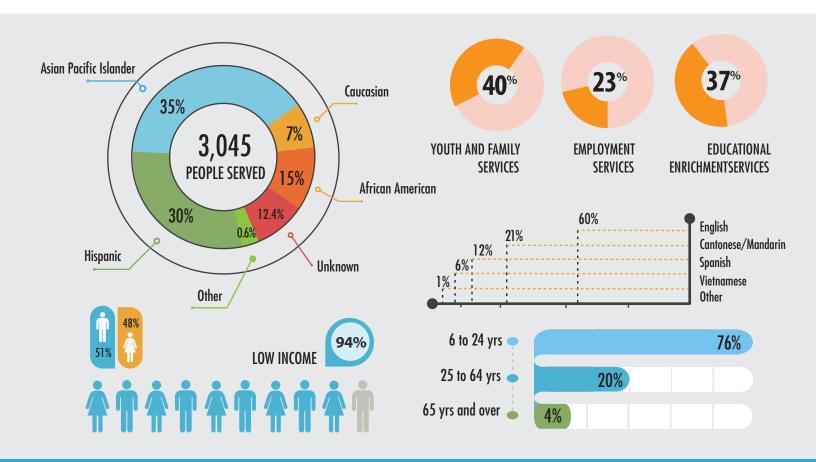
In terms of racial makeup, 35% of the people served identified as Asian Pacific Islander, 30% as Hispanic, 15% as African American, 7% as Caucasian, 0.6% as Native American, and 12.4% as other

or unknown.

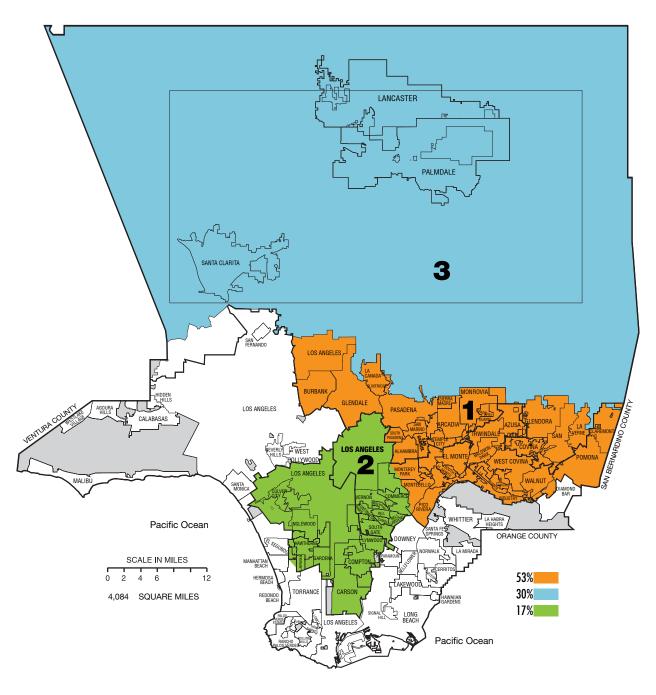
Sixty percent (60%) of all services were provided in English, 21% in Chinese, 12% in Spanish, 1% in Vietnamese, 6% were other or unknown.

Of the people served, approximately 76% of those served were youth (between the ages of 0-21 years). Twenty percent (20%) were adults (between the ages of 25-64), and 4% were seniors (ages 65 years and older).

Ninety-four percent (94%) of all people served were from low-income households.



# **SERVICE AREAS**



Fifty-three percent (53%) of services were provided in the San Gabriel Valley. Seventeen percent (17%) of services were provided in the City of Los Angeles, and 30% of services were provided in Antelope Valley.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM



### Aime Chambert, Operations Manager

Ms. Chambert oversees the office management for the agency, including administration, reception, volunteers, human resources, information technology, and facilities. Ms. Chambert emigrated to the U.S. from Mexico City and began her career at AYC in 2004 as a receptionist. Ms. Chambert received her B.A. at CSU, Long Beach, in 2011.



### Nicholette Espinosa, Program Director

As the Director of Educational Enrichment Services, Mrs. Espinosa oversees after-school and educational programs. She has more than 13 years experience educating and managing youth programs. Mrs. Espinosa completed her B.A. at Cal Poly Pomona in 2005 and her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential in 2009 at Cal State Fullerton.



### Mina Ladlad, Fiscal Manager

Ms. Ladlad is responsible for the financial operations of the agency. She has over 30 years of accounting and management experience. Ms. Ladlad completed both her B.S. and M.A. in Business Administration at the University of the East in the Philippines.



### Kwon Ho (Josh) Lee, Program Director

As the Director of Youth & Family Services, Mr. Lee oversees multiple social service programs for probation youth and their parents. He has more than 13 years of experience working with youth and families. Mr. Lee completed his B.A. at Life Pacific College in 2007 and his M.A. in Organizational & Leadership Studies at Azusa Pacific University in 2014.

### Kevin Lian, Development Manager

As the Development Manager, Mr. Lian is responsible for individual donor development, fundraising events and public relations. He began his career of service more than 10 years ago as a member of the American Red Cross. Mr. Lian completed his B.A. from the University of California, Irvine in 2010.



### Florence Lin, Community Relations Manager

Ms. Lin is responsible for community education and outreach. She is bi-lingual in Chinese and English and is responsible for AYC's press conferences and community education activities and programs. Ms. Lin has a B.S. as well as a Masters Degree in Education from Oregon State University.



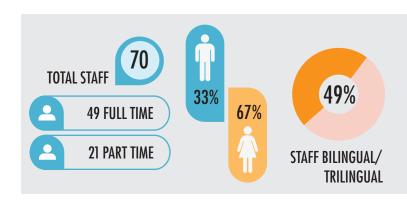
### Shay Smith, Program Director

In 2013, Ms. Smith joined AYC as the Program Director of the Employment Services, a newly created position that oversees multiple employment programs. She brings 14 years of experience to the position. She completed her B.A in Social Work at Xavior University and a dual M.A in Counseling Psychology and Business Administration at Argosy University.



## **STAFFING**

The AYC staff is as diverse as the communities we serve. In fiscal year 2014, AYC employed 70 staff: 49 Full-time employees and 21 part-time employees. Sixty-seven percent (67%) of staff were female, and 33% male. Fifty-three percent (53%) of the staff were Hispanic, 23% Asian Pacific Islander, 16% African-American, and 8% Caucasian. Forty-nine percent (49%) of the staff were bilingual or tri-lingual in Chinese, Vietnamese, Spanish and English.



# **VOLUNTEERS**

AYC would not be the organization it is today without the many wonderful volunteers who share their time, energy, and heart with AYC and the youth and families we serve. Last fiscal year more than 200 volunteers contributed over 5,000 hours of time to support programs, services, administration, and fundraising. They work with the youth in our Educational Enrichment Services department, assist with our Emergency Food program, and serve on the Board of Directors. We would like to thank all of our volunteers for their dedication, service, and enthusiasm!

We would also like to extend special recognition to few groups who organized volunteer events in partnership with AYC: Bank of the West; Los Angeles County Employees; HOPE World Wide Los Angeles and Lifeway Church; US Bankcard Services; and the Ford Theater Foundation. Special Thanks to La Casa De San Gabriel, People for People, East West Bank, A-Sha Noodle, New Asian Trading Company and many others for their volunteer support for the Emergency Food Program.

Finally, we want to thank Chinatown Senior Citizen Service Center, Cal State Los Angeles; Gabrielino High School in San Gabriel; Arcadia High School; the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley; and the Court Referral Community Service Program for referring such enthusiastic and dedicated people to AYC.





## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### Ken Tcheng, Board President

Ken Tcheng was born in Laos, immigrated with his family to the United States and settled in Normal, Illinois in 1969. After graduating from Illinois State University, Ken moved to southern California and worked for Northrop Corporation and then Boeing. He left the aerospace industry after 28 years of progressive management and leadership responsibilities. In 2008 he became the Vice President and General Manager of the Sunnyslope Water Company.

Ken, his wife Marilyn and their sons Trent (28) and Nolan (19) have lived in San Gabriel for 27 years. Ken sits on the board of San Gabriel Unified School District; was on the board of the San Gabriel Educational Foundation (SEF); and is involved in the San Gabriel Rotary Club and Gabrielino High School Athletic Booster Club. Ken joined the Board of Directors of the Asian Youth Center in 2006, and served as the President in 2013 and 2014.



#### **OTHER OFFICERS**

First Vice President: Jim Smith Chief, Monterey Park Police Department

Second Vice President: Evie Jeang Attorney, Ideal Legal group

**Past-President**: Gay Q. Yuen Ph.D., California State University

Secretary: David Lawton Chief, San Gabriel Police Department

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Lily Baba, Pat Brown Institute California State University

Sally Baldwin, Retired Teacher

Marissa Castro-Salvati, Public Affairs, Southern California Edison Company

Ricky Choi, Community Relations Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

Mark Delgado, Community Resident

Daniel Deng, Attorney at Law

Eileen Diamond, San Gabriel Valley Medical Center

Julie Ho, L.C.S.W.

Raymond Ho, Investment Specialist, GE Properties Inc.

William Hsu, State Farm Insurance

Eric Jiang, Garfield Medical Center

Hans Liang, Deputy Probation Officer

Michael Matoba, Community Member

Jones Moy, Retired Chief Monterey Park Police Department

Treasurer: K.T. Leung

C.P.A, Leung Accountancy Corporation

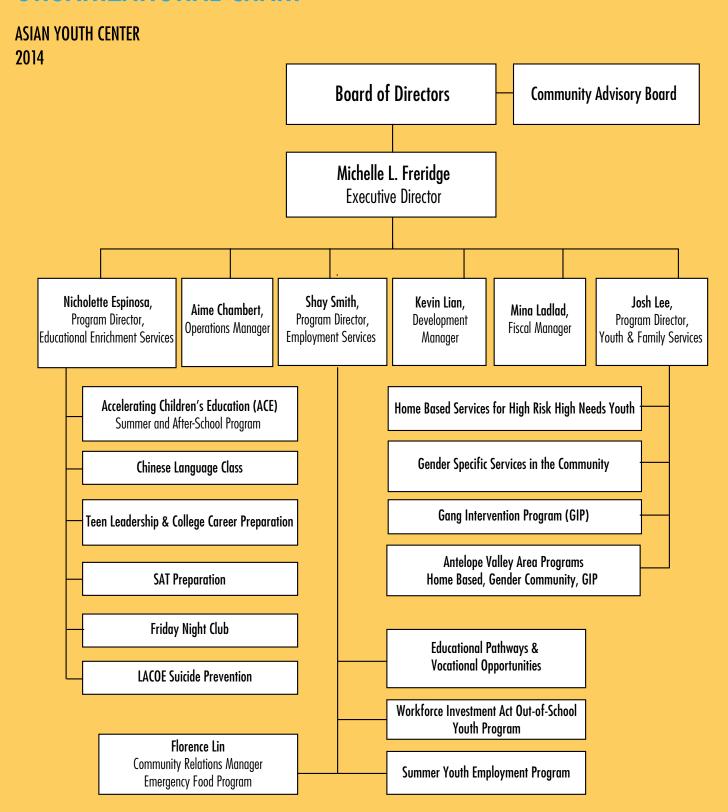
Helen Romero Shaw, Public Affairs Southern California Gas Company

Stanley M. Toy Jr. MD President & CEO, TEAM Healthcare Inc.

Alan T. Wong, Business Banker, Comerica Bank

Chun Fun (Jack) Yao Deputy Probation Officer, Asian Gang Unit

## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

AYCs programs and services are primarily divided into four departments: Educational Enrichment Services; Youth & Family Services; Employment Services; and Community Education & Outreach

### **EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT SERVICES (EES)**

AYC's Educational Enrichment Services (EES) department provides supplemental instruction in English Language Arts and Math, as well as programming in Science, Health and Arts. Participating youth also receive homework assistance in all other academic subjects. EES also offers college and career exploration and guidance, SAT preparation, one-on-one tutoring, Chinese language class, parent education and open recreation. Last year, AYC served 1,126 youth and parents through Educational Enrichment Services.

Educational Enrichment Services programs include:

- 1. The Accelerating Children's Education (ACE) after-school and summer school program provides English language development for low-income, immigrant youth in elementary and middle schools. Last year, the program served 212 youth in grades 1 8.
- 2. Chinese language class helps low-income youth learn to read, write, speak, and understand Mandarin Chinese.
- 3. The Teen Leadership & College Career (TLCC) Preparation Program helps teenagers with homework and time management skills. This program also provides individual academic tutoring, leadership development, opportunities for community service, college preparatory counseling, and career counseling. Last year this program served 52 youth in grades 9-12.
- 4. The SAT Preparation Classes, taught in 8 week segments, focus on developing test-taking skills and improving English language comprehension and writing skills. Last year this program served 60 youth in grades 8-11.
- 5. The Friday Night Club (FNC) is a safe haven program for low-income, at-risk youth (ages 12-18) in the community. FNC provides a safe, supervised, and positive alternative to the streets by offering a basketball program and open access to AYC recreational facilities in the afternoons and on Friday evenings until 9pm. FNC participants engage in life skills workshops, educational field trips and community service opportunities. FNC prevents delinquency and gang involvement, while giving youth a safe haven where they can develop social skills and team work skills. Last year this program served 227 youth.











6. AYC received funding from the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to provide youth suicide prevention training to parents with a focus on Chinese and Spanish speaking parents. This was done in small group presentations as well as at one large conference. In total 575 parents were educated about youth suicide prevention. The curriculum included basic statistics about youth suicide, myths vs. facts, risk factors and serious warning signs and steps for prevention. Role play is used to model prevention behavior and for participants to practice prevention strategies in class.

Many students come to AYC facing significant English language barriers and academic struggles. Through individual tutoring, after-school, weekend, and summer school programs, AYC tutors help students improve academically, gain confidence in and outside of the classroom, and encourage an enthusiasm for learning.

In the ACE after-school and summer school programs, participants improved their math scores by an average of 17%, while ELA scores improved by an average of 10%. Thirty five (35%) of ACE Students are Learning English as a second Language (ESL). Out of a total annual enrollment of 212 students, 75 new enrollments were new immigrant children with little to no English language skills.

One student, named Hung demonstrated amazing growth in the 2013-2014 school year. Hung is a new immigrant to the United States and an English Language Learner. He spoke very little English at the beginning of the school year. When he was assessed at the beginning of the year, his scores were very low, only 22% in Math and 19% in English Language Arts. By the end of his intervention curriculum as a part of our ACE program, he scored a 53% in Math and a 49% in English. This is an amazing achievement on his part. Hung has also developed strong speaking skills and is nearly proficient in spoken English. His parents have expressed many times how thankful they are for the help that the program has been able to provide. We have been fortunate to be a part of his development and progress as a student.

Stories like this are not uncommon at AYC. In addition to valuable academic assistance, AYC offers a nurturing environment for children to develop and overcome obstacles both in and outside of the classroom. We understand our community, and we work to meet their unique needs. This is true in and outside of the classroom. For example, many of our students come

from families with two working parents; AYC tutors have picked up children from their schools, and brought them to AYC for afterschool programs.

The Teen Leadership & College Career (TLCC) Preparation Program helps teenagers with homework and time management skills. This program also provides individual academic tutoring, leadership development, opportunities for community service, college preparatory counseling, and career counseling. Last year this program served 52 youth in grades 9-12. Of these 28 attended regularly. Of the 28 that attended regularly, 21 students were in grades 10-12 and were required to take the CAHSEE high school exit exam. A total of 9 students passed the CAHSEE exam in English Language Arts and 5 students passed the Math. That is a 32% of enrolled students that passed at least one portion of the CAHSEE exam. The average TLCC student displayed an overall growth of 7% in English and 1% in Math.

One TLCC student, Leslie, originally came to AYC to pick up her younger brother from our open recreation Friday Night Club. One

evening, staff asked her about her future and invited her to visit our College Corner. What started as an interest in cosmetology became a desire to enroll in a community college, apply for financial aid and change her career interest to Engineering. During TLCC, Leslie avidly worked on her Pre-Calculus homework, at times being the last one to leave the program. She also began attending the Friday Night Club program and participated in job preparation workshops. Leslie applied for the California Asian Peace Officers Association (CAPOA) scholarship and was selected as a finalist. The tutors helped her prepare for her panel interview, which was very intimidating for her, but she was able to work through her doubts and fears. Leslie is a proud recipient of the CAPOA scholarship!

SAT Preparation Classes, taught in 8 week segments, focus on developing test-taking skills and improving English language comprehension, Math and writing skills. Last year this program served 60 youth in grades 8-11. The average growth in Reading was 4 points. The average growth in Math was a remarkable 31 points. The average growth in Writing was 79 points.





One student named Crossley attended the SAT class and made unbelievable improvements between his Pre-test and Post-test overall scores. His overall score improved from 1340 to 1715, an increase of 375 points with the bulk of this coming from Writing where he improved by 275 points. Later, his mother told AYC that her son made tremendous improvements in the actual SAT taken after the course. Every point matters in your SAT score and AYC's SAT Preparation Class is here to help students in the community meet their academic goals.

Another important program is the Friday Night Club, a safe haven for low-income, at-risk youth in the community. Instead of being on the streets or at home with no adult supervision, youth are able to engage in recreational sports and life skills workshops on Friday evenings at AYC.

#### **YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES (YFS)**

Los Angeles County is home to the largest probation department in the nation, serving over 10,000 at-risk youth and 16,000 juvenile probationers annually. It is also home to over 1,000 gangs and over 87,000 active gang members, making it the undisputed gang and juvenile crimes capital of California. Over seventy-five percent of all gang-related murders in the state are attributed to gangs based in L.A. County. According to the Los Angeles Police Department, gangs commit a disproportionate level of violent crimes in the greater L.A. area -80% of all homicides, 40% of all robberies, and 40% of all aggravated assaults are committed by juveniles and young adults with known gang affiliation.

Such high rates of gang activity and juvenile crimes wreak serious negative impact on public safety and public financial expenditure. Due to the prevalence of gang activity and juvenile crimes, residents of certain areas in L.A. County face a 1 in 51 chance of becoming victims of violent crimes, over eight times higher than that of residents residing in other parts of the state. To combat the effects of gangs and juvenile crimes, L.A. County and City of L.A. agencies spend over \$1.1 billion each year. Contributing to that sum is \$36,828 for each gang related arrest and \$71,700 for detainment of a juvenile offender per year.

While the vast majority of the \$1.1 billion is funneled to fund county and city level law enforcement, probation, and corrections agencies, roughly \$3.8 million per year is allocated to be distributed as contracts to non-profit community based organizations that provide gang and juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention services. The Asian Youth Center operates a number of these contracts in its Youth & Family Services Department.

AYC's YFS Department exists to make positive, powerful impact in the lives of at-risk and high-risk youth and families. All of YFS Department's efforts, activities, and programs exist for the sole purpose of positively changing the lives of its clients. AYC believes that every individual has strengths. AYC takes a strength based approach to our work. We partner with each youth and parent to empower, educate, and support the youth and families to overcome the various barriers, disadvantages, and injustices they experience. In 2014, AYC served 1,219 youth and parents in this department.

#### Youth & Family Services (YFS) Department programs include:

- 1. The High Risk/High Needs Home Based Program works to decrease criminal and delinquent behavior and to promote academic success for high-risk youth on probation. Designed for youth on probation and their parents, the program's case workers visit each family in their home to provide guidance for successful completion of probation. During these weekly visits, case workers lead discussions about decision making, choices and consequences, anger management, substance abuse prevention, and false blaming. Case workers work with parents developing effective communication, discipline, and household structuring skills.
- 2. Gang Intervention Program promotes healthy adolescent development and decreases delinquency, criminal behavior, and gang involvement. Designed for at-risk gang-associated youth and their parents, participants engage in weekly discussion groups that focus on developing healthy cognitive-behavioral skills. Topics addressed include decision making, anger management, substance abuse prevention, and false blaming. The parent component of the program focuses on empowering parents with effective communication, discipline, and household structuring skills.
- 3. Better Outcomes with New Connections & Enrichment for Girls (BOWNCE) promotes healthy emotional and mental development by encouraging positive self-image among young girls. This program instills decision-making and interpersonal skills for female youth identified as at-risk of juvenile delinquency. The focus is on self-esteem, healthy relationships, physical development, conflict resolution, college/career planning, and decision making. Participants also attend field trips and activities centered on the importance of education, fostering cultural awareness, and mother-daughter relationship building.
- 4. The Emergency Food Program helps feed hungry families. For over a decade now AYC has partnered with regional food banks to ensure that families do not go hungry. Because so many of those we serve are Asian and often new to the country, AYC has worked with Asian food manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to provide food that is culturally appropriate and familiar. Last year, AYC fed 620 people through our Emergency Food program.

Youth & Family Services (YFS) programs are provided at school sites, community partner sites, and in clients' homes throughout the first, second and fifth supervisorial districts of Los Angeles County (this encompasses the Antelope Valley, eastern San Fernando Valley, East Los Angeles, Crenshaw and Hawthorn areas of South Los Angeles, Huntington Park, San Gabriel Valley, and Pomona.) The YFS programs seek to decrease recidivism and juvenile delinquency through social learning models and case management services with both the youth and his/her family. By working with youth and their families to develop healthy decision-making skills and promote a positive self-image, AYC helps youth envision a future where they can fulfill their potential, and then helps them build the foundation they need to achieve.

Juanita was a single mother of two teenage children, a son and daughter that were both in middle school. She enrolled in AYC's Home Based program after her son, Mateo, was placed on probation for theft. She received home based support services to help her improve her parenting skills. Juanita admitted to her case worker that she was having difficulty communicating with and disciplining her children. She shared that her parents had been physically and verbally abusive to her when she was growing up and thus she lacked healthy examples on which to model her own parenting style. By participating in the home visits conducted by Case Worker Alfredo Miller, Juanita engaged in weekly discussions and practiced developing effective communication skills including healthy expressions of love and affection, household structuring, active supervision, and effective disciplining techniques. Although it was a gradual process, by the end of her participation in the program, Juanita attested to the drastic improvements in her relationship with Mateo. Juanita says she was able to exercise greater patience and calmness in tone when communicating with Mateo, was able to become much more consistent in enforcing the household rules and appropriately disciplining her children as needed. Juanita says she feels much more in control as a parent, that she feels she is much more able to effectively lead her family by providing them with both the nurture and structure that her kids need.

Thomas was referred to AYC's Gang Intervention Program (GIP) by his school's counselors and probation officer as he was often very disruptive in class, hardly completed any of his assignments, and thus was in danger of failing most of his classes. Thomas participated in the program's 12 weekly sessions that addressed decision making, anger management, addressing peer pressure, and self-awareness. A few weeks after completion of Thomas' participation in the program, Stephen Arroyo, the Youth Services Specialist who facilitated the weekly GIP session, received a call from Thomas' mother. Although Thomas had already completed the program, the mother called Stephen to give an update on Thomas and to express her gratitude for the work Stephen did with her son. She said that after Thomas started the program, she was informed by Thomas' teachers that Thomas had drastically improved his behavior in the classroom. The teacher was impressed with how cooperative and respectful Thomas had become. Thomas has also raised all of his grades. He went from failing grades in all classes to passing grades in all but one. She said that his behavior at home had improved dramatically as well. Thomas' mother attributed the positive changes in her son largely to AYC's GIP program and expresses her gratitude.



#### **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (ES)**

The purpose of the Employment Services department is to increase public safety through reduced recidivism and increased employment success among youth. Services provide participating youth with access to and support for the completion of educational and vocational assessment, exploration, job skills development, training completion and job placement. ES supports youth in obtaining gainful employment and achieving long-term success in the workplace by removing barriers and providing opportunities.

AYC's Employment Services programs successfully served 700 youth in 2014 in the First and Fifth supervisorial districts of Los Angeles County including the Antelope Valley, San Gabriel Valley and East Los Angeles areas. Our Employment Services offices are co-located with the State of California Employment Development Department office in Lancaster and Huntington Park.

### Employment Services (ES) Department programs include:

- 1. Educational Pathways & Vocational Opportunities (EPVO) program is a re-entry program for incarcerated youth ages 16-18. EPVO helps participants acquire their high school diploma or G.E.D., and provides essential job readiness skills and vocational training. Participants receive academic assistance and career counseling, and are enrolled in vocational training or other post-high school educational programs. Program participants also receive a stipend for school fees and necessary items related to his or her educational and/or career path. 153 youth successfully completed this program in 2014.
- 2. The Workforce Initiative Act (WIA) Program for Out-of-School Youth provides employment readiness, employment supports, job skills training and paid work experience for youth ages 16-21 who have dropped out of school or completed their GED and High School Diploma but are experiencing other barriers to employment. 320 youth successfully completed this program in 2014.
- 3. The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provides paid summer jobs for low-income youth ages 14-18. In 2014, 227 youth successfully completed this program.

These programs are critical because so many youth do not have other opportunities to develop job skills or experience.

Karla Romero was a WIA Program participant who identified several barriers that were preventing her from reaching her employment and educational goals including an uncertain resident status and homelessness. She was a bright young lady who, when asked about her future career goals, said that she wanted to help people. Ms. Romero was enrolled in the WIA program and worked as an intern where she learned the basics about office administration such as filing, faxing, copying, and learning phone etiquette. As the months went on, Ms. Romero showed exceptional work performance. She learned data systems and showed major improvement in her professional communication skills. The WIA case worker referred her to legal assistance that helped her resolve her residency, complete her high school diploma, start college courses and was able to find and maintain full-time permanent employment.

Robert Navarro, another WIA program participant, identified several serious barriers to employment. Although he was an early high school grad at the age of 17, he was on probation, and had a substance abuse problem. When he first enrolled, Mr. Navarro openly expressed his lack of motivation and self-confidence. He often expressed that he did not feel worthy of reaching his goals, and at times felt hopeless due to his situation. AYC case managers worked with Mr. Navarro to first help him realize his potential and self worth by recognizing him for small achievements like showing up to the workshops sober and completing a resume. As time went on, these small steps helped Mr. Navarro start his path to self-sufficiency. He became confident in his ability to perform, stopped abusing substances, and demonstrated good behavior to the LA County courts. Due to his participation in the WIA program, Mr. Navarro was released early from his probation sentence. He continued to search for work, and even waited 6 hours to be interviewed with an Alaskan fishing company hosting interviews at the EDD office. Mr. Navarro was selected, and went to Alaska for 3 months to work as a fisherman. This was his first job! Upon successfully returning to California, Mr. Navarro applied to different positions. He now works as a full time mechanic with an auto body shop.

Clarissa is an 18 year old participant in the Educational Pathways & Vocational Opportunities (EPVO) Program, who achieved her long term goal of attaining her high school diploma. Upon entry into EPVO, she was on probation and attending high school classes at a local adult school. Clarissa shared with her case manager a desire of entering a career in law enforcement and told her about a program she wanted to enroll in at UEI College in Huntington Park. Together, Clarissa and her case manager enrolled her into the college. In June 2014, she received her high school diploma and shortly after began her studies in Criminal Justice. A few weeks later, Clarissa sent the following message to her case manager with the following message, "I highly appreciate everything you have done for me. Thank you for encouraging me to become someone in life and to be successful. It's nice having people like you and my family that are very supportive."





Abraham Trevino was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, served time in camp off and on for several years before being referred to AYC's EPVO program in April of 2014. He described his case manager as "someone who helped me out with things like a bus pass, clothing and someone to talk to, and helped me make my resume." In June of 2014, Abraham enrolled in AYC's Summer Youth Employment Program. He described the training workshops as "a class where they taught me how to present myself to a job interview and prepare for it. I also learned how to properly dress at professional events." He was hired at Foot Action in the Santa Anita mall and said "That was my first job thanks to the program. I finished the hours they gave me to work for the summer. Now I am just going to school. I am going to graduate no later than March 2015 and am saving to pay off the restitution I owe to get off probation. I plan on going to college and having a nice life."

#### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

AYC has a long history of providing community education and outreach programs to ensure that our youth and families are receiving up-to-date information about the health issues that affect them. In the past, AYC has implemented outreach programs to educate new mothers about infant health and breastfeeding. We have also provided peri-natal education and support to high-risk mothers, and worked to ensure that our communities have access to quality HIV prevention education. We have conducted outreach and education on a variety of topics including contaminated fish, breast cancer, and Hepatitis C.

In 2014, AYC continued to empower the community through education about the hazards of second hand smoke and smoke-free outdoor areas, which include public parks, outdoor patio areas, and public transit stops. For the 18th year in a row, AYC's Tobacco Control and Prevention (TCPP) program promoted a tobacco-free lifestyle, and worked to educate the public about the dangers of smoking and of second-hand smoke, especially on children and youth. Last year, AYC reached 1,968 people in the TCPP program.

Also in 2014, AYC was also engaged in several small community outreach and education programs connected to voter registration/education and disaster preparedness.

## **FINANCES**

AYC closed 2014 with \$2,265,453 in total liabilities and net assets, which is an increase of \$324,753 from the prior year. This is mostly due to the investment in facilities and expansion of programs.

Revenue and support for the year was \$4,005,204 which is also an increase from the prior year when revenue was \$2,638,298. That is an increase of \$1,366,906. It could also be called an increase 52%.

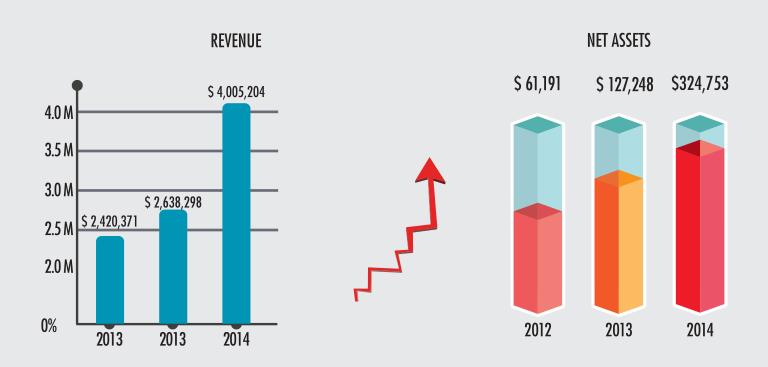
2014 was AYC's third year of significant growth in the annual budget, while continuing to generate an increase in net assets each year and receive positive audits for our financial statements.

AYC's audited Financial Statements and Internal Revenue Service annual 990 forms are public record and are available online at

www.asianyouthcenter.org, www.guidestar.com or upon request.

AYC receives major support in the form of contracts and grants from the Federal Government and County of Los Angeles as well as foundations, corporations, community groups and collaborative partners. AYC receives support from the United Way of greater Los Angeles and the Asian Pacific Community Fund. AYC's individual donors and fundraising events provide additional support each year.

AYC is committed to sustaining its much-needed programs and services and developing new services to meet the emerging needs of the communities we serve through a well-managed diverse portfolio of funding strategies.



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Thank you for your generous contribution that helps us provide our service to children, youth and families. You have our deepest appreciation for your thoughtfulness!

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Peter R. Fona





































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